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2010 Growing Season Review

The 2010 growing season started early with above average temperatures in April. The warm start aided spring planting and other fieldwork. The month of May began slightly colder than normal and brought frost and snow to the northern and west central parts of the state over Mother's Day weekend. Although planting and fieldwork continued, the cold temperatures hampered crop emergence. June and July brought average temperatures and above average rainfall. Crops growing on lighter, higher soils looked excellent, while crops growing on heavier, lower soils showed the stress of excess moisture. Crop development was pushed ahead of normal in August which brought above average temperatures and adequate rainfall. At mid-August soil moisture conditions were rated at 99 percent adequate to surplus. Colder temperatures and rainfall in September slowed harvest, but October brought multiple weeks of dry, sunny weather which allowed much of the state to wrap up harvest by the end of the month. Statewide temperatures from June to September were 1.6 degrees above normal, and precipitation for April through September was 31.05 inches, 8.72 inches above normal.

Corn

Wisconsin farmers planted 3.90 million acres to corn in 2010, a 100,000 acre increase from the previous year. Of those acres, 3.10 million were harvested for grain with a record yield of 162.0 bushels per acre, surpassing last year's record of 153 bushels per acre. This year's corn crop produced 502 million bushels, also a record high. Silage area harvested decreased 100,000 acres, dropping to 750,000 acres in 2010. Corn silage acres yielded 19.0 tons per acre, up 3.0 tons from last year. Silage production was 14.3 million tons this season, up from 13.6 million tons in 2009.

The national corn for grain production is estimated at 12.4 billion bushels, 5 percent below the record high production of 13.1 billion bushels set in 2009. United States grain yield for 2010 is estimated at 152.8 bushels per acre. This is 11.9 bushels below the record high yield of 164.7 bushels per acre set in 2009. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 81.4 million acres, up slightly from the November forecast. The U.S. corn silage yield was equal to last year at 19.3 tons per acre. Total production was 107 million tons, down 1 million tons from last year.

Soybeans

Soybean planted acreage in Wisconsin was 1.64 million acres in 2010. Area of soybeans harvested for beans was 1.63 million acres in 2010, up from 1.62 million acres the previous year. Statewide soybean yield was a record high 50.5 bushels per acre, up 10.5 bushels from 2009, and 3.5 bushels above the previous record set in 1998. The 2010 soybean crop produced 82.3 million bushels, up 27 percent from the previous year.

U.S. Soybean production in 2010 totaled 3.33 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the November 1 forecast and down 1 percent from 2009. United States production is the second largest on record. The average yield per acre is estimated at 43.5 bushels, 0.4 bushel below the November 1 forecast and 0.5 bushel below last year's record high yield. Harvested area is up slightly from 2009 to a record high 76.6 million acres.

Small Grains

In Wisconsin, area seeded to winter wheat in the fall of 2009 was 240,000 acres, a decrease of 95,000 from a year earlier. Statewide, farmers harvested 230,000 acres for grain, a 27 percent decrease from the previous year. Yield was reported at 64.0 bushels per acre, a decrease of 4.0 bushels per acre from 2009. As a result, production was 14.7 million bushels, a decrease of 31 percent from the previous year.

Nationally, winter wheat was planted to 37.3 million acres, down 14 percent. Area harvested for grain was estimated at 31.7 million acres, compared to 34.5 million acres in 2009. U.S. winter wheat yield was 46.8 bushels per acre, up 2.6 bushels from the previous year. Nationally, production decreased from 1.52 billion bushels in 2009 to 1.49 billion bushels in 2010.

Wisconsin seeded 310,000 acres to oats in 2010, the same as what was planted in 2009. Area harvested for grain was 170,000 acres, 25,000 acres less than a year ago. Yield was 58.0 bushels per acre, 10.0 bushels per acre less than the record high set in 2009. Overall production was 9.9 million bushels, a 26 percent decrease from 2009.

U.S. acreage planted to oats was 3.14 million acres, down from 3.40 million acres in 2009 and a new record low. Area harvested for grain dropped from 1.38 million acres in 2009 to 1.26 million acres in 2010. Yield decreased by 3.2 bushels to 64.3 bushels per acre in 2010. Nationally, oat production decreased 13 percent to 81.2 million bushels, a record low.

Barley area seeded in Wisconsin in 2010 was 45,000 acres, the same as 2009. Acres harvested for grain was 30,000 in 2010,

compared to 25,000 in 2009. Barley yield decreased 11.0 bushels per acre from the previous year, to 48.0 bushels per acre. Wisconsin barley production was 1.44 million bushels in 2010.

Nationwide, barley seeded was a record low at 2.87 million acres and barley harvested for grain on 2.47 million acres was the lowest since 1882. The U.S. barley crop yielded 73.1 bushels per acre, up 0.1 bushel per acre from 2009 and the highest yield on record since estimates began in 1866. Barley production was 180 million bushels, down from 227 million bushels in 2009.

Other spring wheat seeded nationally increased from 13.3 million acres in 2009 to 13.7 million acres in 2010. Area harvested for grain was 13.4 million acres in 2010, compared to 13.0 million acres in 2009. Yield increased 1.0 bushel per acre nationally to 46.1 bushels per acre, a record high. Other spring wheat production increased from 584 million bushels in 2009 to 616 million bushels across the U.S. in 2010. In Wisconsin, estimates for other spring wheat were discontinued in 2009.

Hay

Wisconsin farmers harvested 1.30 million acres of alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay in 2010, down 16 percent from 1.55 million acres in 2009. Yield increased from 2.50 tons per acre in 2009 to 2.90 tons per acre in 2010. Alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay production was 3.77 million tons in 2010, down from 3.88 million tons a year earlier. Alfalfa haylage and greenchop was harvested from 1.30 million acres in Wisconsin in 2010, down from 1.40 million acres in 2009. Yield (green weight) was 7.90 tons per acre, up from 5.90 tons per acre a year ago. Alfalfa haylage and greenchop production was 10.3 million tons statewide, up 24 percent from 8.26 million tons in 2009.

Nationally, farmers harvested 20.0 million acres of alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay in 2010, down from 21.2 million acres last year. Yield was up from 3.35 tons per acre in 2009 to 3.40 tons per acre in 2010. U.S. alfalfa and alfalfa mixture dry hay production was 67.9 million tons, down from 71.1 million tons a year ago. Alfalfa haylage and greenchop was harvested from 3.13 million acres in 2010 in the 18 estimating states for alfalfa haylage and greenchop, down from 3.27 million acres last year. Wisconsin accounted for 42 percent of these alfalfa haylage and greenchop harvested acres. The 18-state alfalfa haylage and greenchop yield was 7.38 tons per acre in 2010, up from 6.51 tons per acre in 2009. In the 18 states, alfalfa haylage and greenchop production reached 23.1 million tons in 2010, down from 21.3 million tons last year.

All other hay harvested as dry hay accounted for 360,000 acres in Wisconsin in 2010, down from 370,000 acres in 2009. Yield was 2.10 tons per acre, up from 1.50 tons per acre a year earlier. Production of all other dry hay totaled 756,000 tons in 2010, up 36 percent from 555,000 tons a year ago. Nationally,

all other dry hay was harvested from 39.9 million acres in 2010, up from 38.5 million acres last year. The U.S. all other dry hay crop yielded 1.95 tons per acre, down from 1.99 tons per acre in 2009. All other dry hay production in the U.S. was 77.7 million tons in 2010, compared to 76.6 million tons last year.

Potatoes

Wisconsin farmers planted 62,500 acres of fall potatoes in 2010. Area harvested was 61,500 acres, down from the 63,000 acres harvested in 2009. Potatoes yielded 395 hundredweight (cwt.) per acre, compared to the record yield of 460 in 2009. Wisconsin's production was 24.3 million cwt., ranking third in fall potato production behind Idaho and Washington.

Nationally, potato growers harvested 881,300 acres of fall potatoes in 2010, down four percent from the previous year. The fall potato yield for the U.S. was 409 cwt. per acre. Total fall potato production was 360.7 million cwt. Total production from all four seasons of potatoes (winter, spring, summer, fall) was 397.1 million cwt., down 8 percent from 2009.

Dry Edible Beans

Dry beans planted in Wisconsin during 2010 totaled 6,200 acres, a decrease of 200 acres from 2009. The number of acres harvested last year was 6,200 acres. State dry bean production in 2010 totaled 133,000 cwt. with a yield of 2,150 pounds per acre. Wisconsin produces mostly dark red kidney beans and ranked second in the Nation for the production of those beans.

U.S. dry edible bean production is estimated at 31.8 million cwt. for 2010, 25 percent above 2009. Planted area was estimated at 1.91 million acres, up 24 percent from the previous year. Harvested area totaled 1.84 million acres which was 26 percent above last year. Average U.S. yield, at 1,726 pounds per acre, decreased 11 pounds from 2009.



Mint

Wisconsin farmers harvested 3,900 acres of peppermint and 600 acres of spearmint in 2010. Peppermint yielded 52 pounds per acre and spearmint yielded 43 pounds per acre compared to 54 pounds per acre and 56 pounds per acre respectively in 2009. Peppermint production, at 203,000 pounds, was up 10 percent from the previous year, while spearmint production, at 26,000 pounds, was down 7 percent.

U.S. mint producers harvested 71,300 acres of peppermint and 18,600 acres of spearmint in 2010. Yields were 89 pounds per acre for peppermint and 125 pounds per acre for spearmint. Peppermint production dropped slightly from 6.38 million pounds in 2009 to 6.36 million pounds in 2010, while spearmint production decreased from 2.70 million pounds to 2.32 million pounds

Crop Summary, 2009-2010

Crop	Planted		Harvested		Production		Yield		Unit
	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	2009	2010	
	Thousand Acres				Thousands				
WISCONSIN									
Corn	3,850	3,900	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
for grain	-	-	2,930	3,100	448,290	502,200	153	162	Bu.
for silage	-	-	850	750	13,600	14,250	16.0	19.0	Tons
Soybeans	1,630	1,640	1,620	1,630	64,800	82,315	40.0	50.5	Bu.
Forage, (all) 1/	-	-	2,800	2,650	8,730	9,844	3.12	3.71	Tons
Alfalfa forage, (all) 1/	-	-	2,350	2,200	7,958	8,846	3.39	4.02	Tons
Hay, all (dry only)	-	-	1,920	1,660	4,430	4,526	2.31	2.73	Tons
Alfalfa, (dry only)	-	-	1,550	1,300	3,875	3,770	2.50	2.90	Tons
All other, (dry only)	-	-	370	360	555	756	1.50	2.10	Tons
Winter Wheat	335	240	315	230	21,420	14,720	68	64	Bu.
Oats	310	310	195	170	13,260	9,860	68	58	Bu.
Barley	45	45	25	30	1,475	1,440	59	48	Bu.
Potatoes (fall)	63.5	62.5	63.0	61.5	28,980	24,293	460	395	Cwt.
Dry edible beans 3/	6.4	6.2	6.4	6.2	127	133	1,980	2,150	Lbs.
Peppermint	-	-	3.4	3.9	184	203	54	52	Lbs.
Spearmint	-	-	0.5	0.6	28	26	56	43	Lbs.
UNITED STATES									
Corn	86,382	88,192	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
for grain	-	-	79,490	81,446	13,091,862	12,446,865	164.7	152.8	Bu.
for silage	-	-	5,605	5,567	108,209	107,314	19.3	19.3	Tons
Soybeans	77,451	77,404	76,372	76,616	3,359,011	3,329,341	44.0	43.5	Bu.
Forage, (all) 1/ 2/	-	-	35,748	35,677	99,745	100,172	2.79	2.81	Tons
Alfalfa forage, (all) 1/ 2/	-	-	15,727	14,544	58,380	55,989	3.71	3.85	Tons
Hay, all (dry only)	-	-	59,775	59,862	147,700	145,556	2.47	2.43	Tons
Alfalfa, (dry only)	-	-	21,247	19,956	71,072	67,903	3.35	3.40	Tons
All other, (dry only)	-	-	38,528	39,906	76,628	77,653	1.99	1.95	Tons
Winter Wheat	43,346	37,335	34,510	31,749	1,524,608	1,485,236	44.2	46.8	Bu.
Oats	3,404	3,138	1,379	1,263	93,081	81,190	67.5	64.3	Bu.
Barley	3,567	2,872	3,113	2,465	227,323	180,268	73.0	73.1	Bu.
Potatoes (fall)	937	894	917	881	393,544	360,727	429	409	Cwt.
Dry edible beans 3/	1,540	1,911	1,464	1,843	25,427	31,801	1,737	1,726	Lbs.
Peppermint	-	-	69.8	71.3	6,379	6,363	91	89	Lbs.
Spearmint	-	-	20.5	18.6	2,698	2,318	132	125	Lbs.

1/Includes all acreage harvested for dry hay and/or haylage and all production from those acres on a dry equivalent basis. 2/ Largest 18 states. 3/Clean basis. Source: USDA, NASS, WIFO

Wisconsin Corn and Soybean Stocks Up from 2009, but U.S. Stocks Down from 2009

Corn stocks in Wisconsin totaled 402 million bushels as of December 1, 2010, up 4 percent from 2009. On-farm stocks accounted for 245 million bushels, while off-farm stocks came in at 157 million bushels. Of the 386 million bushels in all positions in December 2009, 285 million bushels were stored on the farm, while 101 million bushels were stored off the farm.

Nationwide, corn stored in all positions on December 1, 2010 totaled 10.0 billion bushels, down 8 percent from December 1, 2009. Of the total stocks, 6.30 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 15 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.74 billion bushels, are up 7 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2010 indicated disappearance is 4.11 billion bushels, compared with 3.86 billion bushels during the same period last year.

Wisconsin soybean stocks increased 40 percent from 43.0 million bushels in December 2009 to 60.0 million bushels as of December 1, 2010. On-farm and off-farm stocks are 21.0 million bushels and 39.0 million bushels, respectively, compared with the previous year's 15.5 million on-farm bushels and 27.5 million off-farm bushels.

U.S. soybeans stored in all positions on December 1, 2010 totaled 2.28 billion bushels, down 3 percent from December 1, 2009. Soybean stocks stored on farms totaled 1.09 billion bushels, down 11 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 1.19 billion bushels, are up 7 percent from last December. Indicated disappearance for September - November 2010 totaled 1.20 billion bushels, up 4 percent from the same period a year earlier.

Oat stocks in the U.S. stored in all positions on December 1, 2010 totaled 101 million bushels, 9 percent below the stocks on December 1, 2009. Of the total stocks on hand, 34.1 million bushels are stored on farms, down 21 percent from a year ago. Off-farm stocks totaled 67.0 million bushels, down 1 percent from the previous year. Indicated disappearance during September - November 2010 totaled 15.9 million bushels.

U.S. wheat stored in all positions on December 1, 2010 totaled 1.93 billion bushels, up 8 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 550 million bushels, down 2 percent from last December. Off-farm stocks, at 1.38 billion bushels, are up 13 percent from a year ago. The September - November 2010 indicated disappearance is 522 million bushels, up 22 percent from the same period a year earlier.

National barley stocks stored in all positions on December 1, 2010 totaled 181 million bushels, down 12 percent from December 1, 2009. On-farm stocks are estimated at 91.7 million bushels, 20 percent below a year ago. Off-farm stocks, at 89.5 million bushels, are 3 percent below December 2009. The September - November 2010 indicated disappearance is 42.8 million bushels, 29 percent above the same period a year earlier.

Wisconsin on-farm storage capacity increased slightly from 350 million bushels in 2009 to 355 million bushels in 2010. Off-farm storage capacity in Wisconsin increased from 281 million bushels in 2009 to 300 million bushels in 2010. The number of off-farm storage facilities in Wisconsin increased from 360 in 2009 to 380 in 2010.

**GRAIN STOCKS: December 1, 2009-2010
(Total, All Positions) 1/**

Grain	Wisconsin		United States	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
	1,000 bushels			
Corn	386,280	401,834	10,902,460	10,039,877
Soybeans	42,960	59,991	2,338,550	2,276,860
Oats	2/	2/	110,629	101,076
Wheat	2/	2/	1,781,691	1,927,755
Barley	2/	2/	206,389	181,120

1/Includes both on- and off-farm stocks. 2/Wisconsin not published separately, but included in U.S. total. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO.

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